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"NERO Spring / Summer 1983" (1983). *New England Regional Office*. 5.
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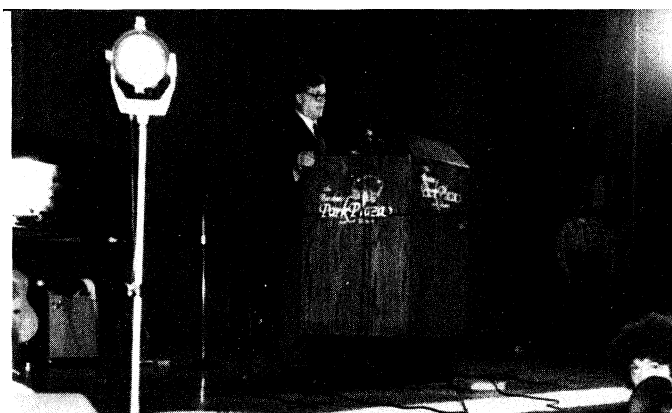
New England Regional Office

REPORT

THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

Spring/Summer 1983

HSUS Challenges Animal Exploitation at Primate Research Centers



In a keynote speech launching the April 24, 1983 world-wide mobilization against U.S. primate centers, John A. Hoyt, President of The Humane Society of the United States told a crowd of 5,000 people at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel that "thousands of primates are subjected to living conditions that can no longer go unchallenged."

"Today marks the potential for an awakening of the people of this nation and, indeed, throughout the world, to the injustice, abuse, and suffering we have permitted to be inflicted upon animals in the name of scientific research," Hoyt said.

"It has been said that we are here seeking to prevent research benefitting mankind. It has been said that we are more concerned for the welfare of animals than the welfare of humans. It has been said that we are intent on halting all research in any way utilizing animals. Nothing, I tell you, could be further from the truth."

"Rather, we are here to protest for better research. We are here to insist that what is being done for our welfare be done with our consent. We are here to affirm that our physical welfare must not be purchased at the price of our spiritual and moral welfare."

Hoyt said that the Mobilization for Animals, a coalition of more than 400 animal groups, will seek the establishment of



an immediate policy which guarantees that all animals in primate centers and related facilities will receive anesthesia and analgesics on pre-operative, experimental, and post-operative situations in cases which involve pain or suffering to the animals, and the abolition of all sterotaxic devices and other methods of restraint which cause distress to research subjects.

In addition, Hoyt said the Mobilization will seek the establishment of an office in each regional primate center to be staffed with individuals acting as representatives for the welfare of animals in each facility.

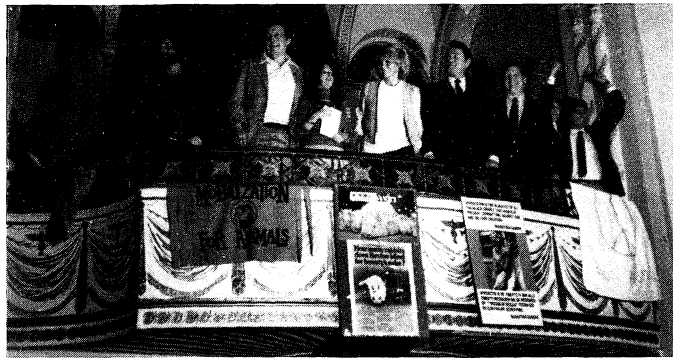
"We are gathered here to declare, not only to this institution, but to its six sister facilities, to its parent facility, the National Institutes of Health, to the government of this nation, and especially to the people of this land, that we shall no longer permit to go unchallenged the preemptive exploitation of these primates for purposes we know little or nothing about."

Actors Earl Holliman, the president of Actors and Others for Animals, Angie Dickinson, Susan Strasberg, author Cleveland Amory and Mobilization Coordinator Richard Morgan also addressed the crowd.

Similar April 24th demonstrations were held in Madison, Wisconsin; Atlanta, Georgia; and Davis, California. Simultaneous mass demonstrations were held at primate research

and breeding facilities in England, Scotland, Sweden, Norway, Germany, France, Spain, Switzerland, New Zealand, and Australia.

HSUS members who would like a copy of John Hoyt's speech should write or call The HSUS New England Regional Office. (203) 434-1940.



Rally speakers respond to the crowd's applause.

From the Director

"Tunnel-vision humanitarians" often make the news. I'm speaking about those people who love one kind of animal and disdain other kinds that might be in natural competition with them in our environment.

Recently, I responded to a news story about a Block Island woman who stated she drowned free-roaming cats and drove her Land Rover over snapping turtles because they interfered with her bird-watching activities. I advised her that her cruel methods of dealing with the cat and turtle problems broke the Rhode Island cruelty law, and she would be prosecuted if she continued using these methods. The woman responded by saying the news story was inaccurate and some of her comments were taken out of context. She didn't deny her actions, however.

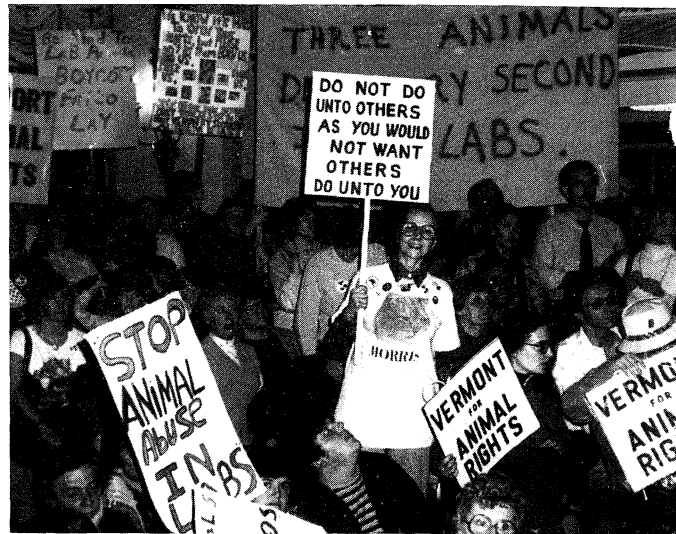
We will be working with several Rhode Island animal-welfare agencies and Block Island authorities to insure animal problems are handled in a humane way in the future.

Naturalist John Muir once said, "If you pick up anything in the universe, you'll find it connected to something else!" Anyone with "tunnel-vision" problems should reflect on that statement.

John J. Dommers

Animal Control/Humane /Academy

The third annual New England Animal Control/Humane Academy will be held at the University of New Hampshire in Durham on July 20-23 1983. John Dommers will be one of the Academy speakers. For more information, contact Joel Faria, New Hampshire SPCA, P.O. Box 196, Stratham, New Hampshire 03885.



Without question, the mass mobilization rallies against primate centers were by far the largest, most visible activities ever to take place on behalf of animals. An estimated 35 - 45,000 people rallied on a worldwide basis.

Judge Responds

The public was outraged when a news story and photo showed a pregnant doe at the Green Hill Park Barnyard Zoo in Worcester, Massachusetts had been shot in the head with an arrow. Veterinarians operated to remove the arrow, but the 70-pound deer died. The unborn fawn couldn't be saved.

A twelve-year-old Worcester boy, who owned a bow with the brand name, "Deerslayer" was charged with the slaying.

Regional Director John Dommers contacted the Juvenile Court and recommended the youth be required to volunteer time with an animal welfare organization as part of his penalty. It would set a good example for other young people and could have a positive effect in helping the youth develop respect for life.

The judge who presided over this case responded, saying: "I would like to advise you that, even prior to your letter, we had arranged for volunteer work at a local animal shelter for the youth involved and we had also completed a psychological assessment of that boy by our Court Clinic.

"At the hearing I did find sufficient fact in this case and this twelve-year-old boy will be supervised by the Court for at least one year. On hearing the facts of this case, my impression was that this was an act done without forethought or premeditation. It is my belief and hope that with the structure and assistance provided by the Court, this juvenile will develop a full respect for all forms of life, human and animal."

Dommers stated that zoos must provide greater security for their animals to prevent situations like this one which, unfortunately, are not uncommon.

LEGISLATION

This has been our busiest year for animal-related legislation. The following is a sampling of the legislation.

Connecticut:

Despite strong protests from HSUS and animal welfare groups, SB 82, AN ACT AUTHORIZING SUNDAY HUNTING was passed by the Environment Committee by a narrow 7-6 vote and by the Senate. HSUS, horse riding clubs, the Connecticut Farm Bureau and others have alerted members with the hope the bill can be defeated in the House.

Following strong opposition from HSUS and other humane groups, HB 5981 AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE USE OF IMPOUNDED DOGS FOR RESEARCH, was killed in the Public Health Committee.

On a 9-8 vote, the Environment Committee refused to hold a public hearing for the HSUS supported leg-hold trap ban. This vote effectively killed the bill for this session.

SB 630, AN ACT CONCERNING THE POSSESSION OF PETS IN ELDERLY HOUSING, actively supported by HSUS, cleared the Planning and Development Committee and was passed by the Senate on May 4.

Massachusetts:

Testifying at hearings before the Committee on Counties and the Committee on Natural Resources, John Dommers spoke in favor of: SB 215, Pound Seizure Repeal, SB 1187, AN ACT TO PROVIDE STANDARDS FOR PLANNING, EXPENDITURE OF BUDGET, USE OF PERSONNEL, AND PERMISSIBLE ACTIVITIES, RELATING TO THE KILLING OF WILD ANIMALS AND BIRDS FOR THE STATED PURPOSE OF PROTECTING THE PUBLIC HEALTH, OR PROTECTING OR BENEFITTING THE ANIMALS OR ECOSYSTEMS INVOLVED, SB 1178 AN ACT TO PROTECT THE MOURNING DOVE, B 644, AN ACT THAT WOULD PERMIT ELDERLY RESIDENTS IN NEW PUBLIC HOUSING TO KEEP PETS, and several bills to eliminate cruel trapping. HSUS opposed bills to permit Sunday hunting and mourning Dove hunting.

HSUS actively supported HB 2979, a bill DESIGNATING JANUARY 14 AS ALBERT SCHWEITZER'S REVERENCE FOR LIFE DAY. This bill was introduced at the request of Dorothy Checchi-O'Brien. It was passed by the House and Senate and is expected to be signed by the Governor.

Maine:

HSUS opposed legislation that would reinstate a bounty for coyotes and permit trapping with snare devices.

New Hampshire:

The regional office voiced strong opposition to a bill that would authorize the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Dept. to establish a moose hunting season. Like Maine, New Hampshire wants to exploit moose for fund-raising purposes.

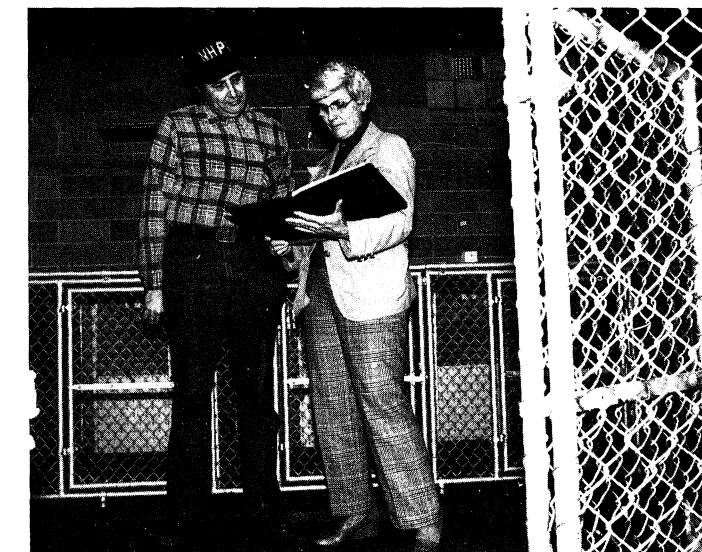
It's A Rare Bird That Can't Stand A Little Improvement

As part of the HSUS Accreditation Program, Phyllis Wright, Vice President of the Companion Animals Division, recently visited the region to evaluate several animal-control-agency programs. Each in-depth evaluation focuses on administrative policies and procedures, quality animal care that includes humane euthanasia, adoption policies that provide for sterilization of adopted animals, cruelty investigations and public education to eliminate community animal problems.

Phyllis noted, "The standards for accreditation are demanding, but so is the need for quality animal care and control."

An accredited agency or organization sets a "humane example" that will lead to greater citizen cooperation in solving the animal-related problems plaguing communities.

New England Regional Director John Dommers commented that "Most animal-control agencies and humane organizations want to improve and streamline their operations. Our accreditation program offers a perfect opportunity to get started. A list of accreditation requirements matched to particular organizations is available by writing to the regional office."



Phyllis Wright discusses some of her evaluation findings with Frank Strona, Officer-In-Charge of New Haven's (CT) recently expanded animal shelter.

The New England Regional Report is a publication of:
The Humane Society of the United States
New England Regional Office
P.O. Box 362
East Haddam, CT 06423
John J. Dommers, Director
(203) 434-1940

The Humane Society of the United States is a charitable, tax-exempt national animal welfare organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C., regional field offices, and an education center in Connecticut.

Member Profile:

Durham, Connecticut sixth grader Barbara Prigitano dreams of turning her life-long interest in protecting animals into a full-time career. A young and active member of The Humane Society of the United States, Barbara is busy making that dream come true.

In March, a local television station's video crew followed Barbara to the state capitol. Reading testimony she wrote herself, Barbara asked state lawmakers to pass a bill that would allow elderly residents in public housing to keep a pet.

Her activities to help animals and people were featured on a special segment of the evening news.

Barbara is the founder and President of We Care About Animals (WCAA). Members of the animal protection group are students at the Strong Middle School in Durham, Connecticut.

Traveling to the Norma Terris Humane Education Center, the home of The HSUS New England Regional Office, Barbara and WCAA members and faculty advisors have worked with Shay Cannon, Administrative Intern, to develop special projects and a newsletter that is distributed in their school and community.

We expect to see and hear a lot more from Barbara and her friends in the future.



Following her testimony at a State Capitol hearing in Hartford (CT), Regional Director John Dommers (left) and HSUS Administrative Intern Shay Cannon (left) present a special KIND award to Barbara Prigitano while Senator Amelia Mustone, Senate Majority Leader, and Frank LeRose (center) Director of the Gifted and Talented Program for the Durham, (CT) Public Schools, look on.

"I give, devise and bequeath to The Humane Society of the United States..."

To grasp the potential impact and power of this sentence, demonstrates an awareness that these simple words can convey the deep values of one's life. In this instance the value is an abiding concern for the protection of animals.

We will be pleased to send "Your Will to Help Animals" and information about our animal protection programs.

Mail in confidence to: Murdaugh S. Madden, Vice President/General Counsel, The Humane Society of the United States, 2100 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037.

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The Humane Society of the United States

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